



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption for Certain Transactions Between Investment Companies and Employee Benefit Plans

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor (DOL) is submitting this Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA)-sponsored information collection request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). Public comments on the ICR are invited.

DATES: The OMB will consider all written comments that the agency receives on or before **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review - Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

Comments are invited on: (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) if the information will be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) the accuracy of the agency's estimates of the burden and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (4) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (5) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to

respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mara Blumenthal by telephone at 202-693-8538, or by email at DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 408(a) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) authorizes the Secretary of Labor “to grant a conditional or unconditional exemption of any fiduciary or class of fiduciaries or transactions, from all or part of the restrictions imposed by section 406 and 407(a).” Class exemption PTE 77-4, which was originally granted on April 8, 1977, exempts from the prohibited transaction restrictions the purchase and sale by an employee benefit plan of shares from a registered, open-end investment company (mutual fund) when a fiduciary of the plan (e.g., an investment manager) is also the investment advisor for the investment company. The exemption requires disclosure of any redemption fees in the current prospectus and approval of the advisory fees by a second fiduciary so that the plan fiduciary can make informed judgments with respect to the prudence of the transactions. For additional substantive information about this ICR, see the related notice published in the *Federal Register* on July 22, 2022 (87 FR 43897).

This information collection is subject to the PRA. A Federal agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and the public is generally not required to respond to an information collection, unless the OMB approves it and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall generally be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that does not display a valid OMB Control Number. *See* 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6.

DOL seeks PRA authorization for this information collection for three (3) years. OMB authorization for an ICR cannot be for more than three (3) years without renewal. The

DOL notes that information collection requirements submitted to the OMB for existing ICRs receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review.

Agency: DOL-EBSA.

Title of Collection: Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption for Certain Transactions Between Investment Companies and Employee Benefit Plans.

OMB Control Number: 1210-0049.

Affected Public: Private Sector— Businesses or other for-profits and not-for-profit institutions.

Total Estimated Number of Respondents: 825.

Total Estimated Number of Responses: 297,552.

Total Estimated Annual Time Burden: 25,208 hours.

Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden: \$0.

(Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D))

Dated: December 23, 2022.

Mara Blumenthal,

Senior PRA Analyst.

[FR Doc. 2022-28501 Filed: 12/30/2022 8:45 am; Publication Date: 1/3/2023]